



SOUTHEAST LICC REPORT (1/04)



First Steps Facilitator: Sarah Parker

Regional LICC status:

Active LICCs: 6 LICC's representing are active
2 LICC's being developed; Butler/Ripley & Cape will have their first meeting in January
3 new LICCs were being developed

Primary Outcomes of LICCs:

Continues to be Provider Recruitment, Public Awareness, Membership, and Assisting the SPOE.

Summary of activities and accomplishments:

Articles have been placed in local newspapers, flyers have been created and distributed, radio spots, parent meeting, participated in toy drive, SPOEs continue to support LICCs, planning new year meetings with presentors, new LICCs starting.

Southeast LICCs have done a wonderful job in providing public awareness without funding. They have come together and volunteer extra time & money to make sure First Steps is a familiar name in their community.

They continue to work on the issues and support the program they believe in!

Southeast SPOEs attend every LICC meeting their schedules will allow. They are good to provide information, support, updates, etc.,...as requested by LICCs.

Key points and significant information to provide SICC:

1. Phelps/Pulaski county - Members continue to work towards increasing membership and public awareness.
2. Franklin/Gasconade – Have created new flyers to be distributed with tear off numbers. Members are working on and planning to have a seminar series for parents; Building Strong Families. LICC members & SPOE continue speaking at Health Departments, CO-OPS & Parents as Teachers to give First Steps general and referral information. LICC has created a letter requesting donations from community businesses to help with the cost of public awareness. They are now in the process of sending “Thank Yous” and deciding how they can best promote the First Steps Program with the funds.
3. ** St. Francis/Iron - continue building their membership and working on public awareness.
4. 4. **SEMO – Continue to have presentations on additional community programs. Continue to work on public awareness & membership. This LICC is breaking into two additional LICCs. They will hold their first meetings in January. Two other LICCs are needed to provide a local voice in their communities. This should be continued once the new “Consultants” contract is awarded.
5. St. Genevieve - Continue placing ads in the Community Calendar. Planning parent meetings with presentors. Held a meeting with the area State Representative to give basic information on First Steps and let him know how important it is to their community.
6. **Dent – Continue to work on building their membership & public awareness.

** These rural areas (as well as a few others) continue to require provider recruitment for families to serve all of their families and for these families to have a choice. In these areas mileage is an issue and several providers are choosing to stop natural environment service to work at one location requiring the family to come to them.

Concerns:

- Southeast LICCs are concerned with the budget problems.
- They are relieved to know that providers will not be going without pay, however, concerned about the training and Facilitator contracts. Feel that with a lapse in Facilitators as a direct links to DESE their voices will not be heard, especially those rural areas.
- Worried about the effect a lapse in training will have on the program as there is already a number of providers that need proper training.
- LICCs are concerned about the major changes being made to the First Steps Program when it is not even finished with the first year. Some feel these changes are not in the best interest of the families they serve and First Steps is headed back to the way it was before redesign (which was not working at all!).
- Concerned about the “feeling” at LICC meetings and with providers & families becoming negative rather than positive towards First Steps.